#1 IN a FOUR-ISSUE LIMITED SERIES
LiLiTH DaRK
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CHARLES C. DOWD
FANTASTIC FIRST ISSUE!

OUR HERO, LILITH DARK, DEFENDER OF THE INNOCENT AND SLAYER OF BEASTIES, SCALES THE WALLS OF THE OMINOUS MOUNTAIN OF FEAR - IN PURSUIT OF THE WICKED CREATURES THAT ROAM WITHIN ITS WALLS!
THOSE BEASTIES HAVE TERRORIZED THE VILLAGERS FOR THE LAST TIME!
NOTHING, NOT EVEN THIS TREACHEROUS MOUNTAIN, WILL STAND IN MY WAY!
THE BEASTIES HAVE DESTROYED THE VILLAGERS' FARMS, STOLED THEIR CROPS...
...EATED ALL THEIR CAKES!
ALL THEY HAVE LEFT IS BEANS! WHO EVEN GROWS BEANS? BEANS ARE GROSS!
ONLY THING WORSE THAN BEANS IS MEATLOAF.
BLECH!
LUCKILY THOSE DUMB OL' BEASTIES ATE ALL THAT, TOO!
ALMOST THERE...
...FINALLY.

BEASTIES ARE SO PREDICKABLE. ALWAYS LIVING IN CAVES...
...ALWAYS HIDING IN THE SHADOWS...
...JUST HOW I LIKE IT.
NOW WHAT DID I DO WITH THAT FLINT?
AHH, THERE IT IS.
FLIT
FLIT
FFWWSSHH
HEH, SO PREDICK-ABLE.
DO THEY REALLY THINK A STEEL DOOR WILL KEEP ME OUT?
I MEAN, "HELLO!"
I DO GOTS A SKELETON KEY THAT'LL OPEN PRETTY MUCH ANY DOOR ANYWHERE.
SIGH
IT'S LIKE THEY DON'T EVEN TRY.

WORKS EVERY TIME.
CLI-CLICK
NOW THE ONLY QUESTION IS "WHAT KINDA BEASTIES ARE WE DEALING WITH?"
IS IT THE FUZZY ONES THAT LOOK ALL CUTE BUT THEN HAVE RAZOR SHARP TEETH?
MAYBE THE ONES WITH A THOUSAND EYES AND SPIDER LEGS...ICK!
OR MAYBE THE WORST KIND OF ALL...
CANNON-BULLS!
CHEW
NOM NOM
CRU MUNCH
LILITH DARK IN...
"THE A'VENTURE BEGINS!"
CREATED, WRITTEN AND ILLUSTRATED BY
CHARLES C DOWD
EDITING & PROOFREADING
JOHN MACLEOD, JOEL POIRIER & JESS BOHPRIE
INTERIOR COLOR ASSISTS
WILLIAM RINGROSE
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STOP RIGHT THERE, CANNON-BULLS!
I AM LILITH DARK- DEFENDER OF THE INNOCENT AND SLAYER OF BEASTIES...
...AND I'M HERE TO DESTROY YOU!

LILITH DARK?!
HOW WONDERFUL OF YOU TO JOIN US! YOU'RE JUST IN TIME FOR DINNER!

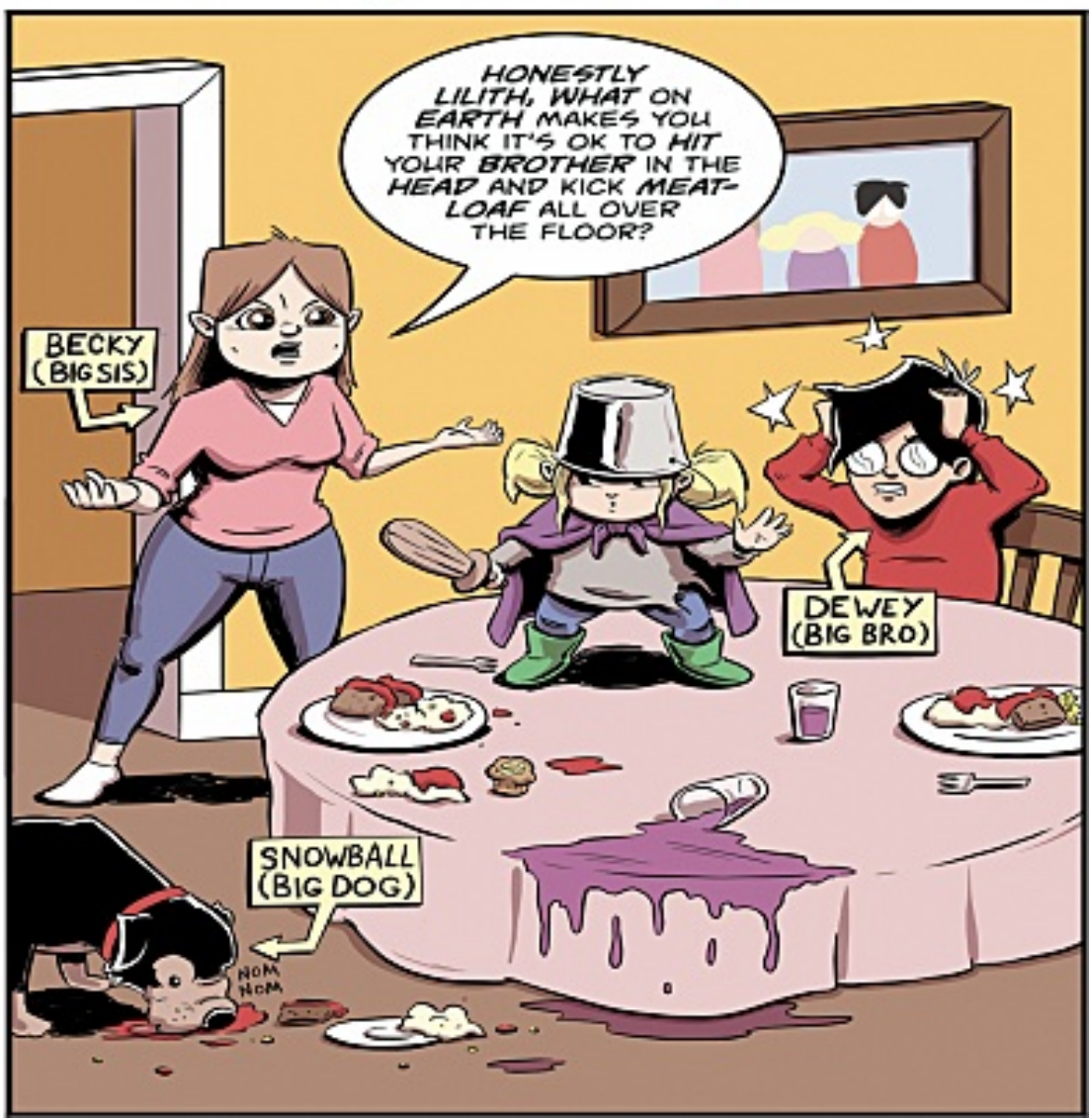
NO THANKS, BEASTIE, I ALREADY ATE. ASIDES, I THINK IT'S TIME YOU TWO WENT ON A DIET!

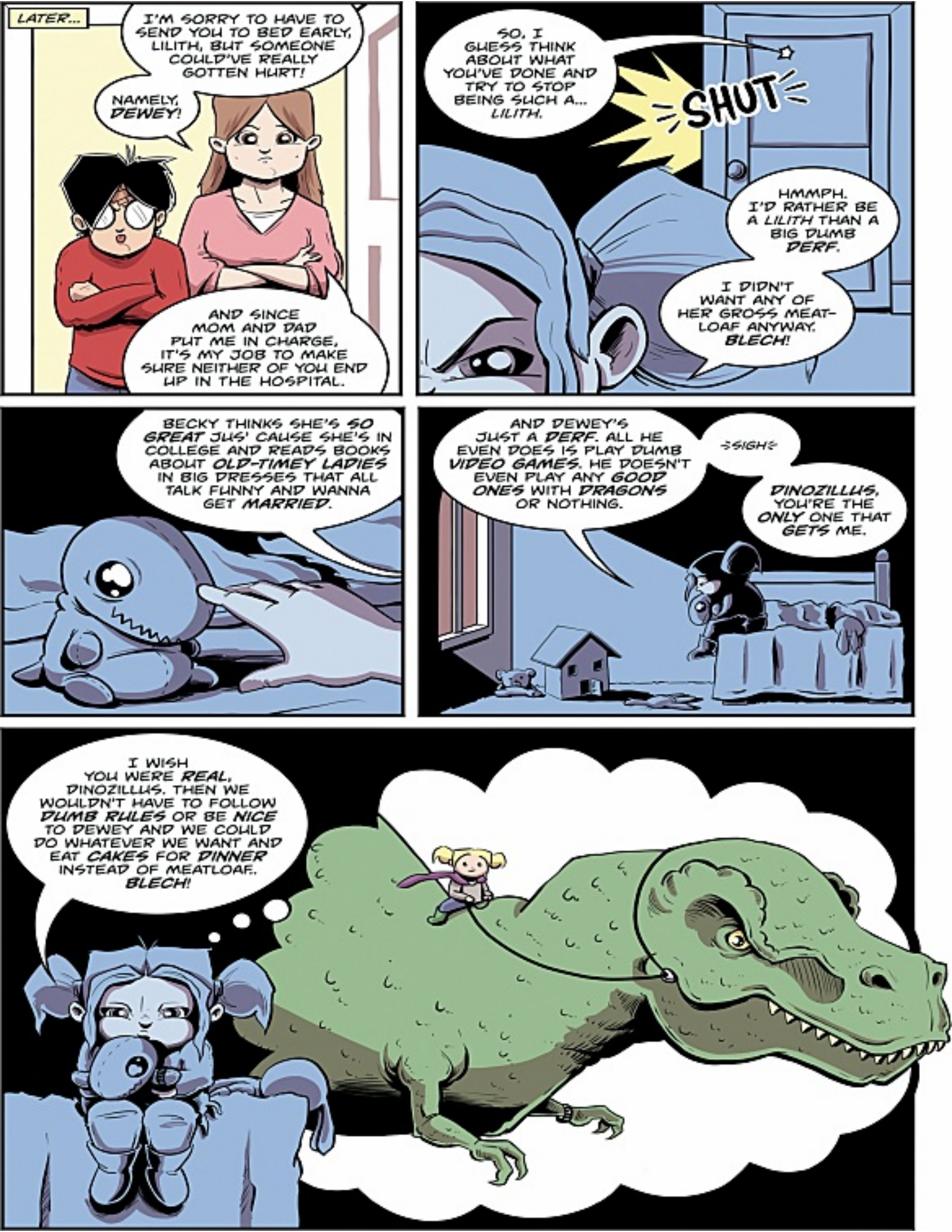
DIET?!
OH, BUT LILITH DARK, YOU LOOK SO...
DELICIOUS!

AWW, POOR THING. YOU MUST BE STARVING!
HOW 'BOUT WE SKIP THE APPLESIZER AND GET RIGHT TO THE MAIN COURSE!

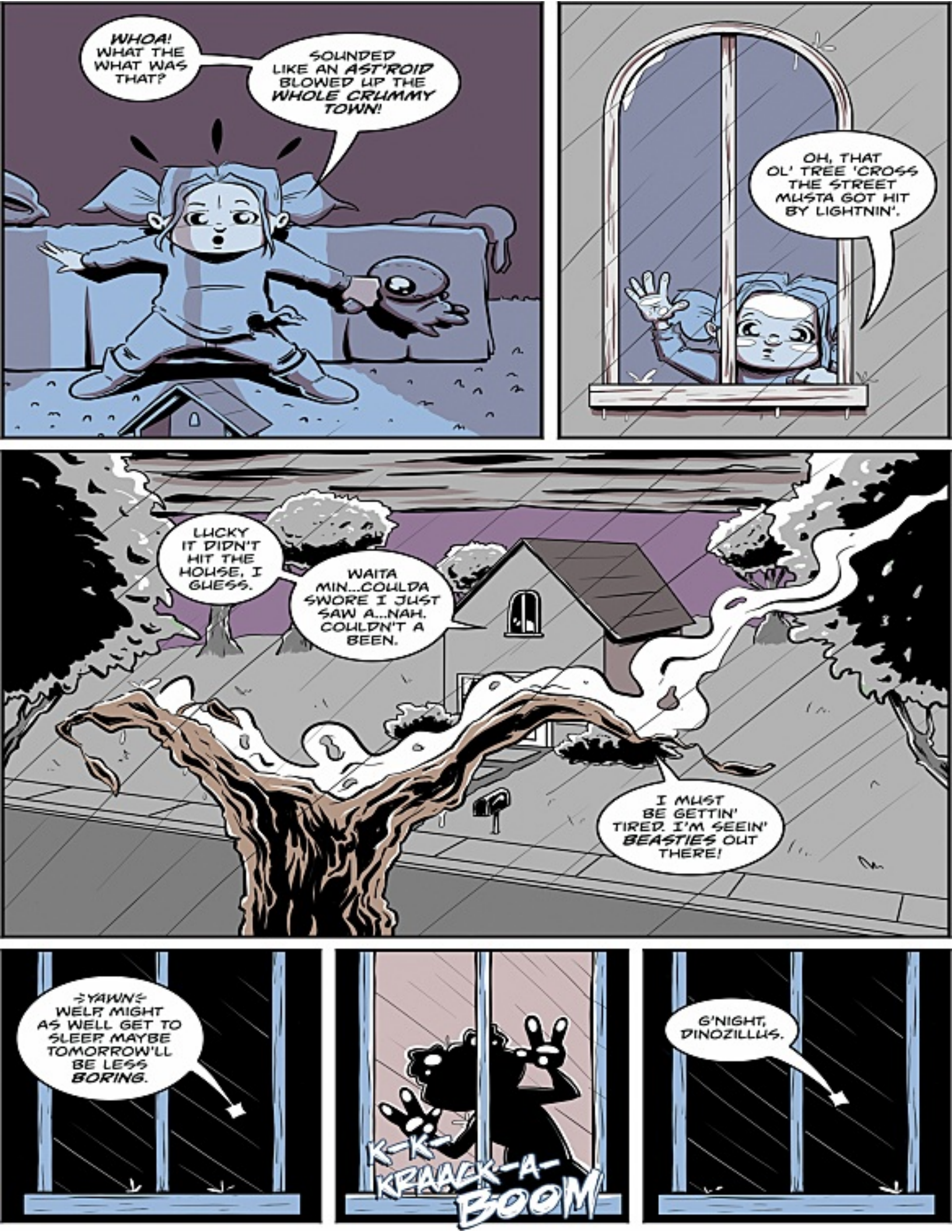
LILITH! NO! STOP HITTING HIM!
KA-
BONG

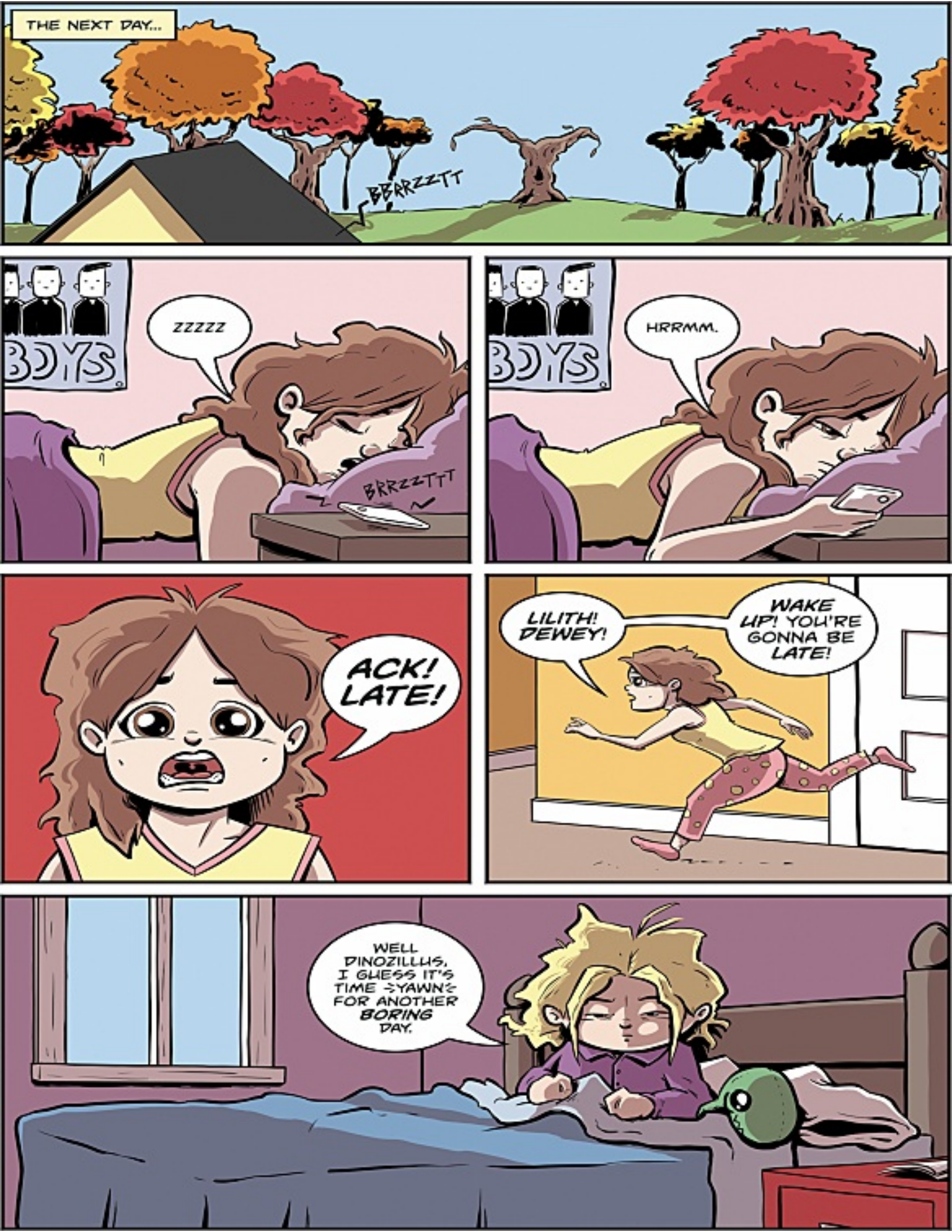
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?! GET DOWN FROM THERE RIGHT NOW! YOU'RE RUINING DINNER!

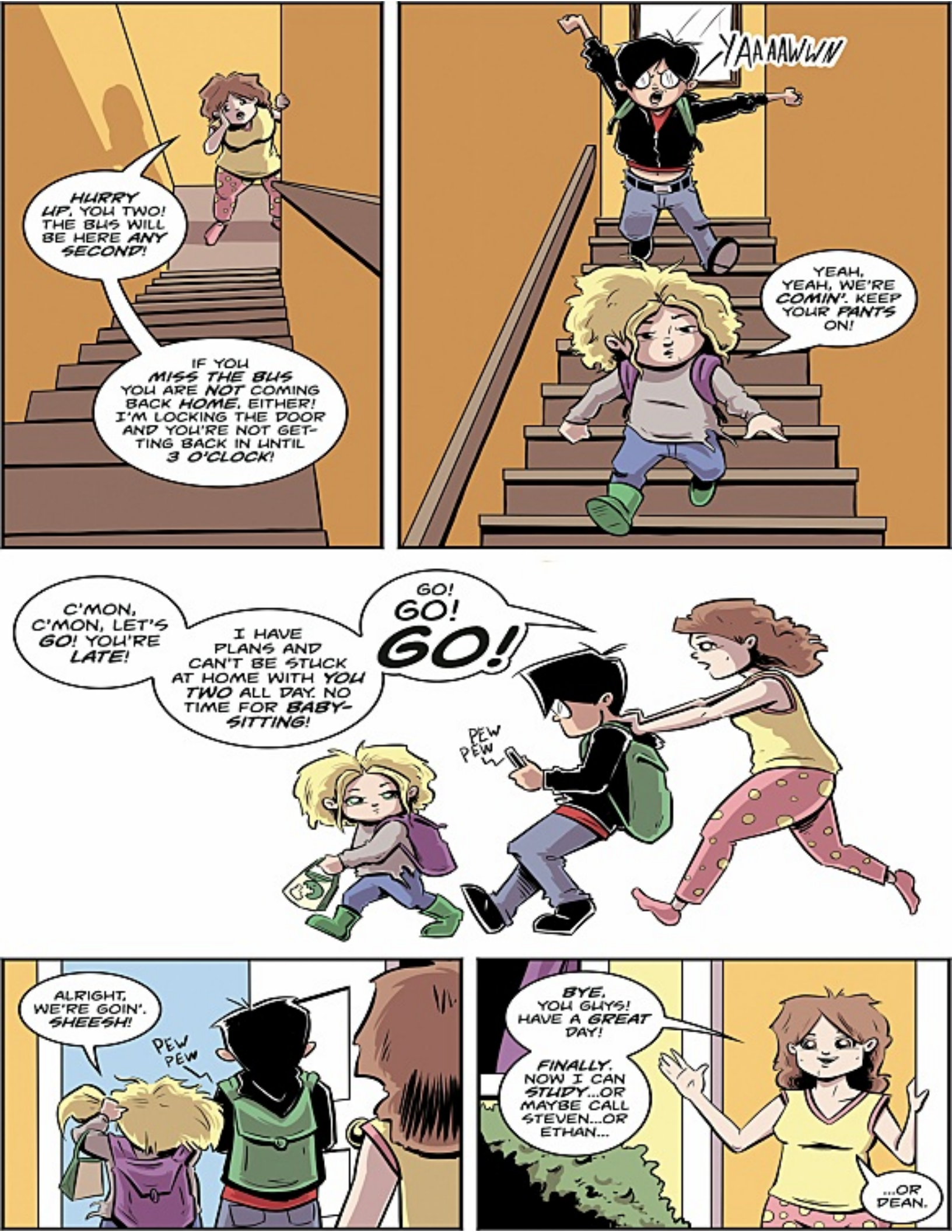

HONESTLY LILITH, WHAT ON EARTH MAKES YOU THINK IT'S OK TO HIT YOUR BROTHER IN THE HEAD AND KICK MEAT-LOAF ALL OVER THE FLOOR?
BECKY (BIG SIS)
DEWEY (BIG BRO)
SNOWBALL (BIG DOG)
NOM NOM

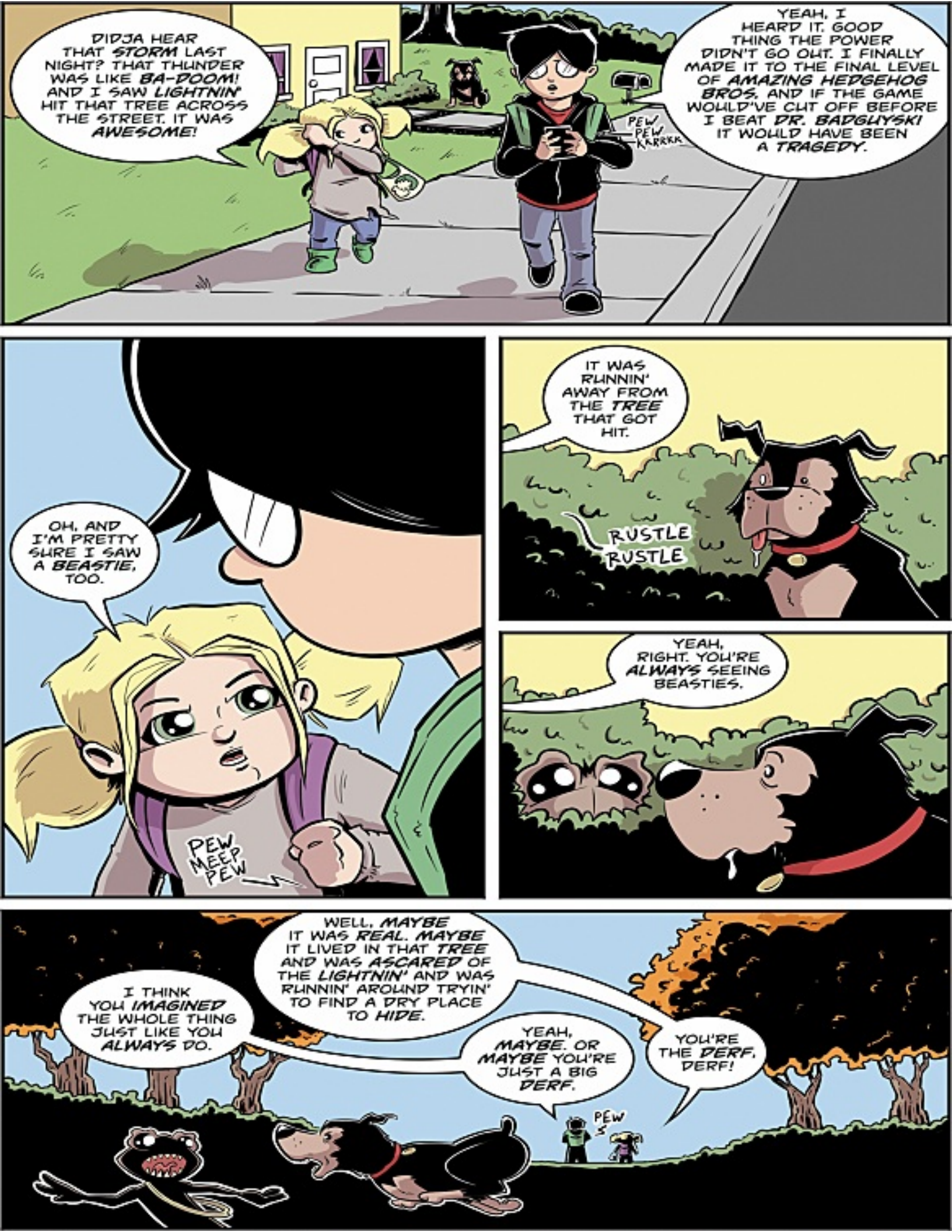

LATER...
I'M SORRY TO HAVE TO SEND YOU TO BED EARLY, LILITH, BUT SOMEONE COULD'VE REALLY GOTTEN HURT!
NAMELY, DEWEY!
AND SINCE MOM AND DAD PUT ME IN CHARGE, IT'S MY JOB TO MAKE SURE NEITHER OF YOU END UP IN THE HOSPITAL.
SO, I GUESS THINK ABOUT WHAT YOU'VE DONE AND TRY TO STOP BEING SUCH A... LILITH.
SHUT
HMMPH. I'D RATHER BE A LILITH THAN A BIG DUMB DERF.
I DIDN'T WANT ANY OF HER GROSS MEAT-LOAF ANYWAY. BLECH!
BECKY THINKS SHE'S SO GREAT JUS' CAUSE SHE'S IN COLLEGE AND READS BOOKS ABOUT OLD-TIMEY LADIES IN BIG DRESSES THAT ALL TALK FUNNY AND WANNA GET MARRIED.
AND DEWEY'S JUST A DERF. ALL HE EVEN DOES IS PLAY DUMB VIDEO GAMES. HE DOESN'T EVEN PLAY ANY GOOD ONES WITH DRAGONS OR NOTHING.
=SIGH=
DINOZILLUS, YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE THAT GETS ME.
I WISH YOU WERE REAL, DINOZILLUS. THEN WE WOULDN'T HAVE TO FOLLOW DUMB RULES OR BE NICE TO DEWEY AND WE COULD DO WHATEVER WE WANT AND EAT CAKES FOR DINNER INSTEAD OF MEATLOAF. BLECH!

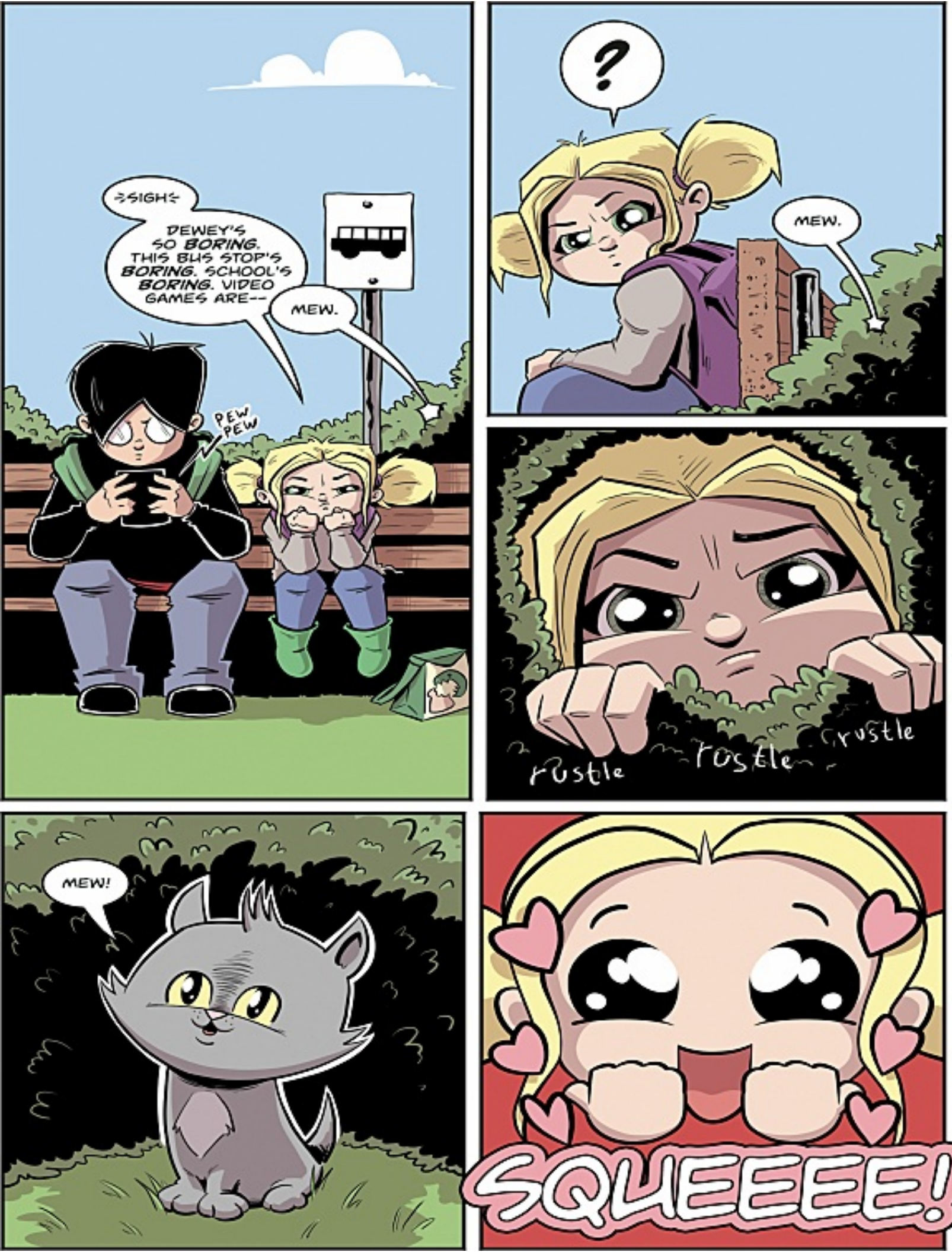
"AND WE COULD HUNT WICKED BEASTIES AND CHASE 'EM THROUGH THE WOODS AND WHOMP 'EM! THAT'D BE SO AWESOME!"
BUT WE CAN'T DO ANY OF THAT FUN STUFF.
ALL WE GET TO DO IS SIT HERE IN THIS BORING OL' ROOM AND DO THE SAME BORING OL' STUFF EVERY DAY.
I WISH I COULD HAVE JUST ONE REAL A'VENTURE.
KRAACK -A- BOOM!

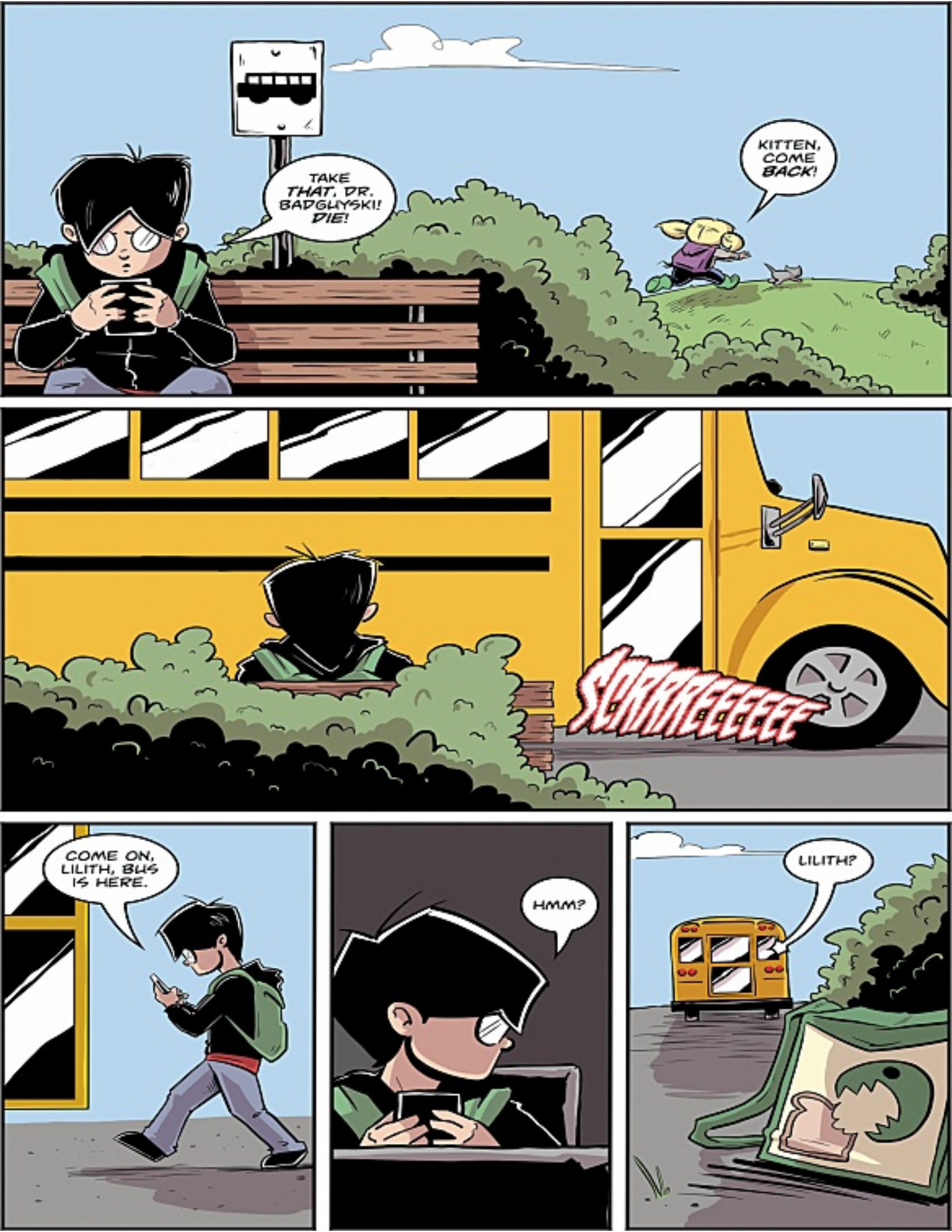

WHOA! WHAT THE WHAT WAS THAT?
SOUNDED LIKE AN AST'ROID BLOWED UP THE WHOLE CRUMMY TOWN!
OH, THAT OL' TREE 'CROSS THE STREET MUSTA GOT HIT BY LIGHTNIN'.
LUCKY IT DIDN'T HIT THE HOUSE, I GUESS.
WAITA MIN...COULDA SWORE I JUST SAW A...NAH. COULDN'T A BEEN.
I MUST BE GETTIN' TIRED. I'M SEEIN' BEASTIES OUT THERE!
=YAWN= WELP, MIGHT AS WELL GET TO SLEEP. MAYBE TOMORROW'LL BE LESS BORING.
K-K- KRAACK-A- BOOM
G'NIGHT, DINOZILLUS.


THE NEXT DAY...
BBRRZZTT
BOYS
ZZZZZ
BRRZZTT
BOYS
HRRMM.
ACK! LATE!
LILITH! DEWEY!
WAKE UP! YOU'RE GONNA BE LATE!
WELL DINOZILLUS, I GUESS IT'S TIME ÷YAWN÷ FOR ANOTHER BORING DAY.

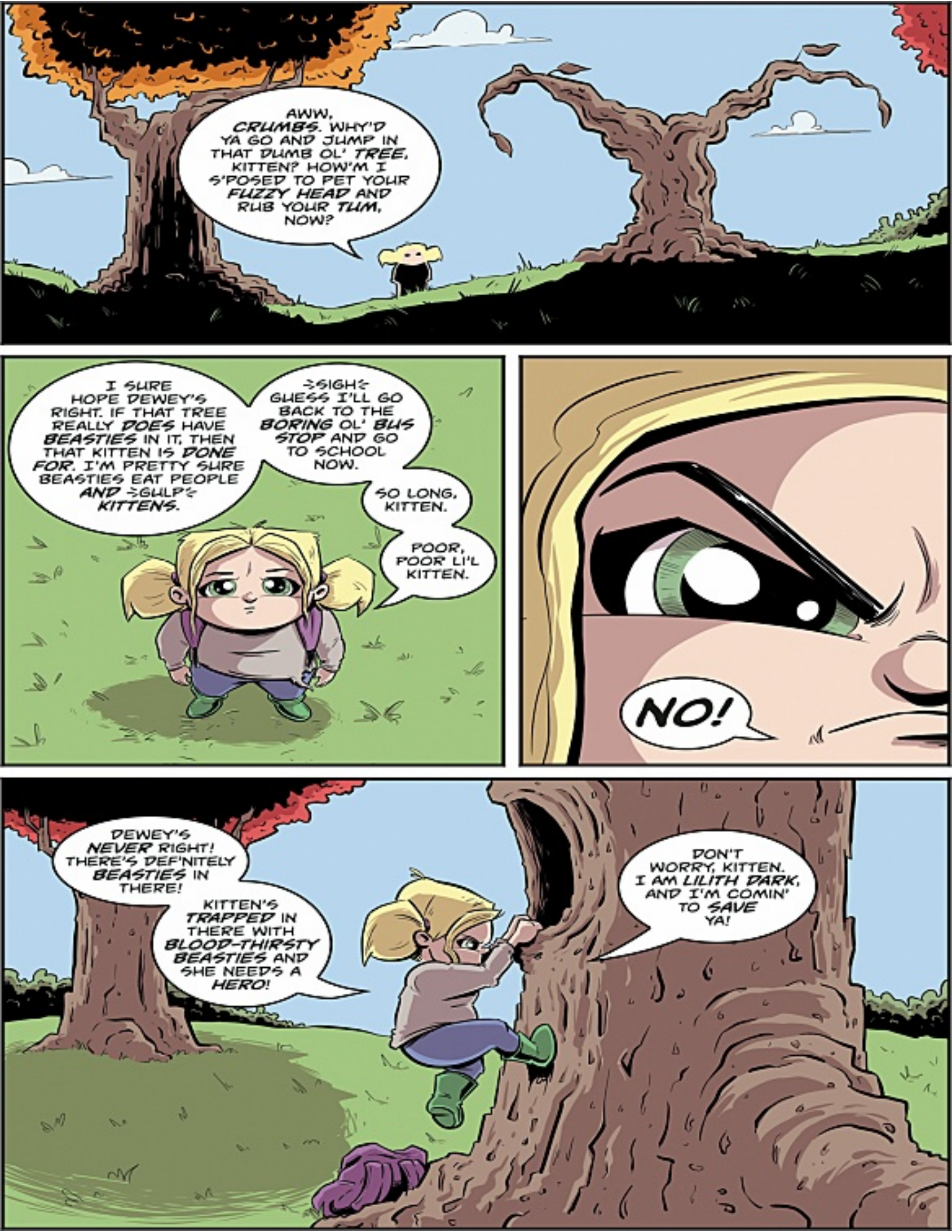

HURRY UP, YOU TWO! THE BUS WILL BE HERE ANY SECOND!
IF YOU MISS THE BUS YOU ARE NOT COMING BACK HOME, EITHER! I'M LOCKING THE DOOR AND YOU'RE NOT GETTING BACK IN UNTIL 3 O'CLOCK!
YAAAAWWN
YEAH, YEAH, WE'RE COMIN'. KEEP YOUR PANTS ON!
C'MON, C'MON, LET'S GO! YOU'RE LATE!
I HAVE PLANS AND CAN'T BE STUCK AT HOME WITH YOU TWO ALL DAY. NO TIME FOR BABYSITTING!
GO! GO! GO!
PEW PEW
ALRIGHT, WE'RE GOIN'. SHEESH!
PEW PEW
BYE, YOU GUYS! HAVE A GREAT DAY!
FINALLY. NOW I CAN STUDY...OR MAYBE CALL STEVEN...OR ETHAN...
...OR DEAN.

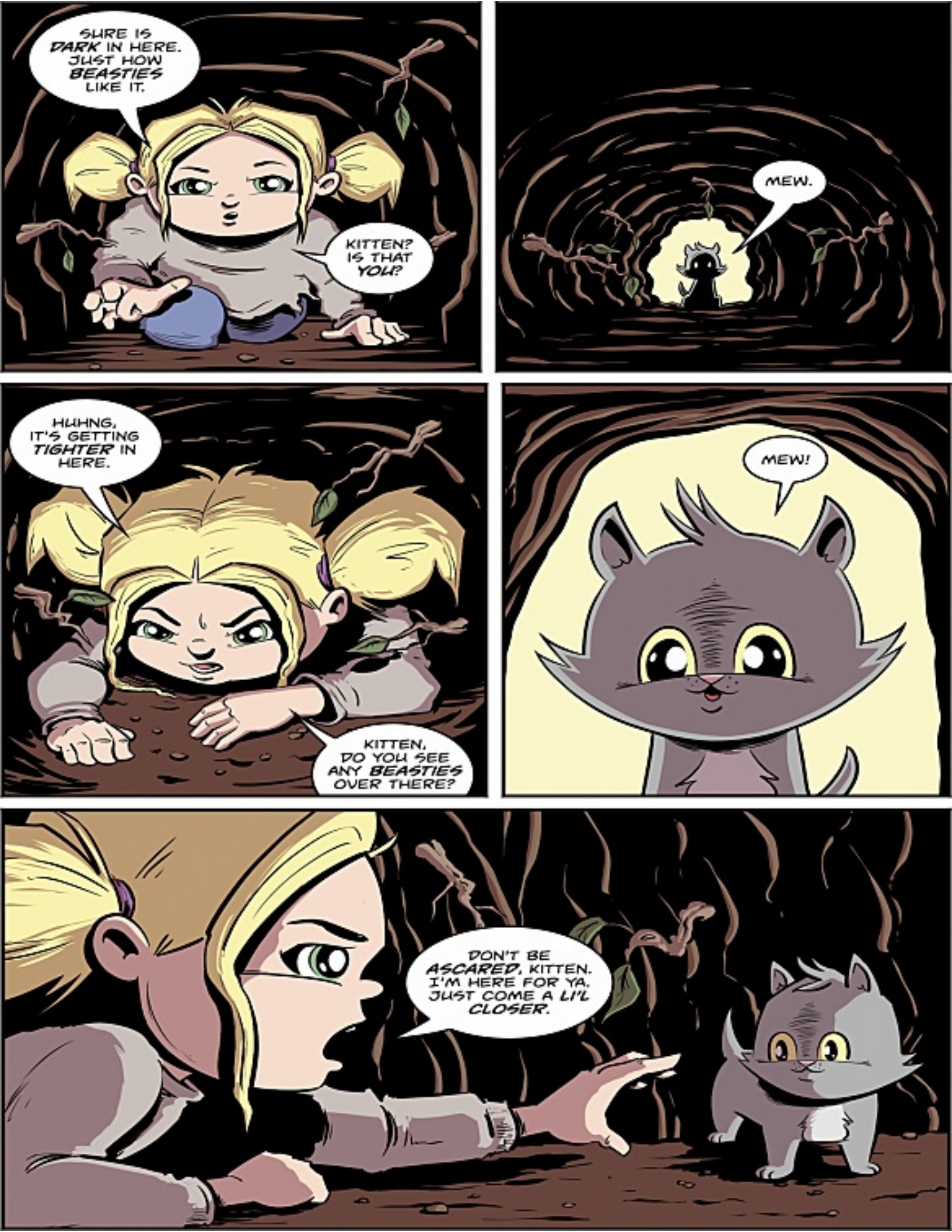

DIDJA HEAR THAT STORM LAST NIGHT? THAT THUNDER WAS LIKE BA-DOOM! AND I SAW LIGHTNIN' HIT THAT TREE ACROSS THE STREET. IT WAS AWESOME!
YEAH, I HEARD IT. GOOD THING THE POWER DIDN'T GO OUT. I FINALLY MADE IT TO THE FINAL LEVEL OF AMAZING HEDGEHOG BROS, AND IF THE GAME WOULD'VE CUT OFF BEFORE I BEAT DR. BADGUYSKI IT WOULD HAVE BEEN A TRAGEDY.
PEW PEW KARRKK
OH, AND I'M PRETTY SURE I SAW A BEASTIE, TOO.
PEW MEEP PEW
IT WAS RUNNIN' AWAY FROM THE TREE THAT GOT HIT.
RUSTLE RUSTLE
YEAH, RIGHT. YOU'RE ALWAYS SEEING BEASTIES.
I THINK YOU IMAGINED THE WHOLE THING JUST LIKE YOU ALWAYS DO.
WELL, MAYBE IT WAS REAL. MAYBE IT LIVED IN THAT TREE AND WAS ASCARED OF THE LIGHTNIN' AND WAS RUNNIN' AROUND TRYIN' TO FIND A DRY PLACE TO HIDE.
YEAH, MAYBE. OR MAYBE YOU'RE JUST A BIG DERF.
YOU'RE THE DERF, DERF!
PEW


SIGH
DEWEY'S SO BORING. THIS BUS STOP'S BORING. SCHOOL'S BORING. VIDEO GAMES ARE--
MEW.
PEW PEW
?
MEW.
rustle
rustle
rustle
MEW!
SQUEEEE!

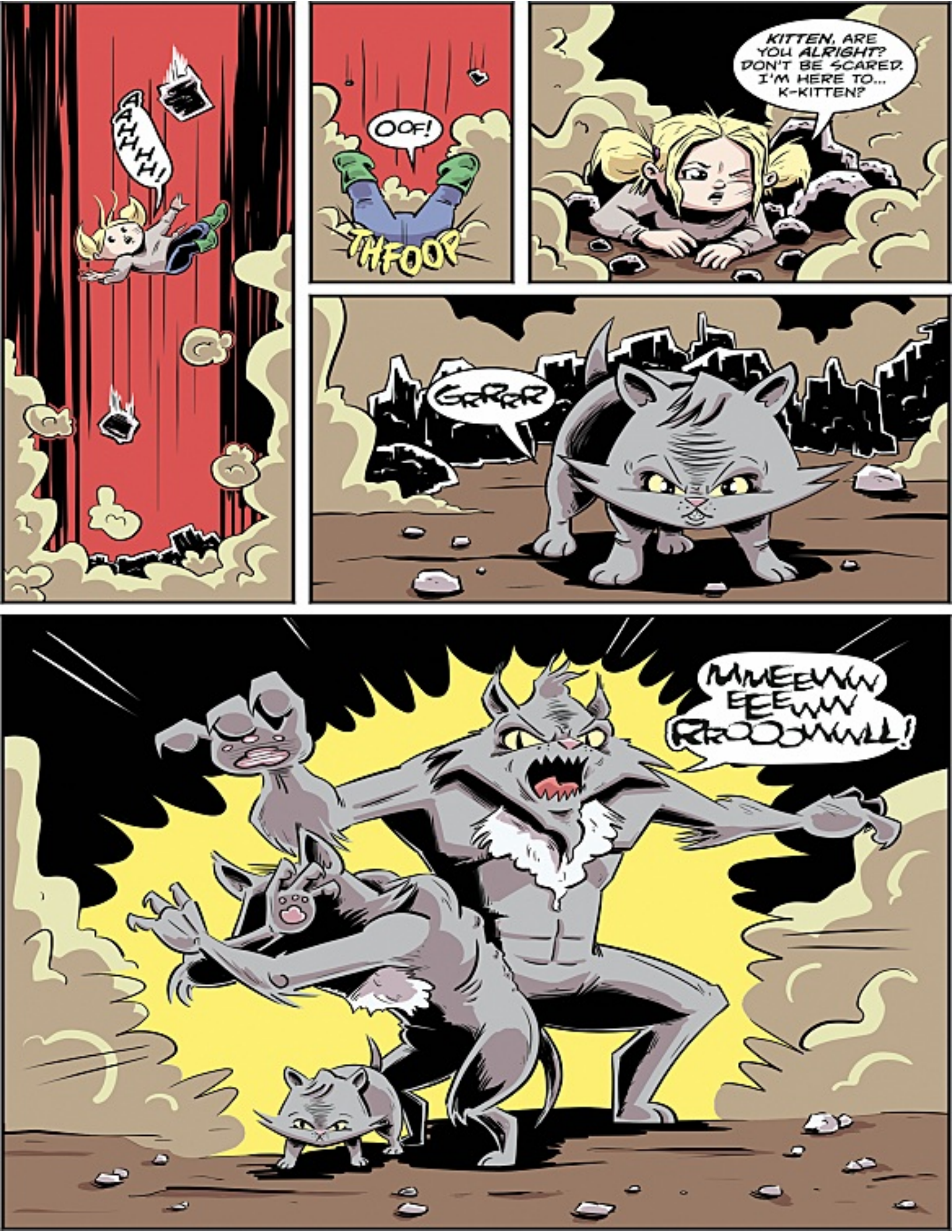

TAKE THAT, DR. BADGUYSKI! DIE!
KITTEN, COME BACK!
SCRRREEEEEE
COME ON, LILITH, BUS IS HERE.
HMM?
LILITH?

MEW!
KIIIT-TEN!
KIIIT-TEN! WHERE AAARRRE YOU?
HEEERE, KITTY KITTY! KIIIIIIIT-TEN!
HEY! CAT!
WHERE THE HECK ARE YA?!
MEW.
MEW.


AWW, CRUMBS. WHY'D YA GO AND JUMP IN THAT DUMB OL' TREE, KITTEN? HOW'M I S'POSED TO PET YOUR FUZZY HEAD AND RUB YOUR TUM, NOW?
I SURE HOPE DEWEY'S RIGHT. IF THAT TREE REALLY DOES HAVE BEASTIES IN IT, THEN THAT KITTEN IS DONE FOR. I'M PRETTY SURE BEASTIES EAT PEOPLE AND *GULP* KITTENS.
SIGH GUESS I'LL GO BACK TO THE BORING OL' BUS STOP AND GO TO SCHOOL NOW.
SO LONG, KITTEN.
POOR, POOR LI'L KITTEN.
NO!
DEWEY'S NEVER RIGHT! THERE'S DEF'NITELY BEASTIES IN THERE!
KITTEN'S TRAPPED IN THERE WITH BLOOD-THIRSTY BEASTIES AND SHE NEEDS A HERO!
DON'T WORRY, KITTEN. I AM LILITH DARK, AND I'M COMIN' TO SAVE YA!

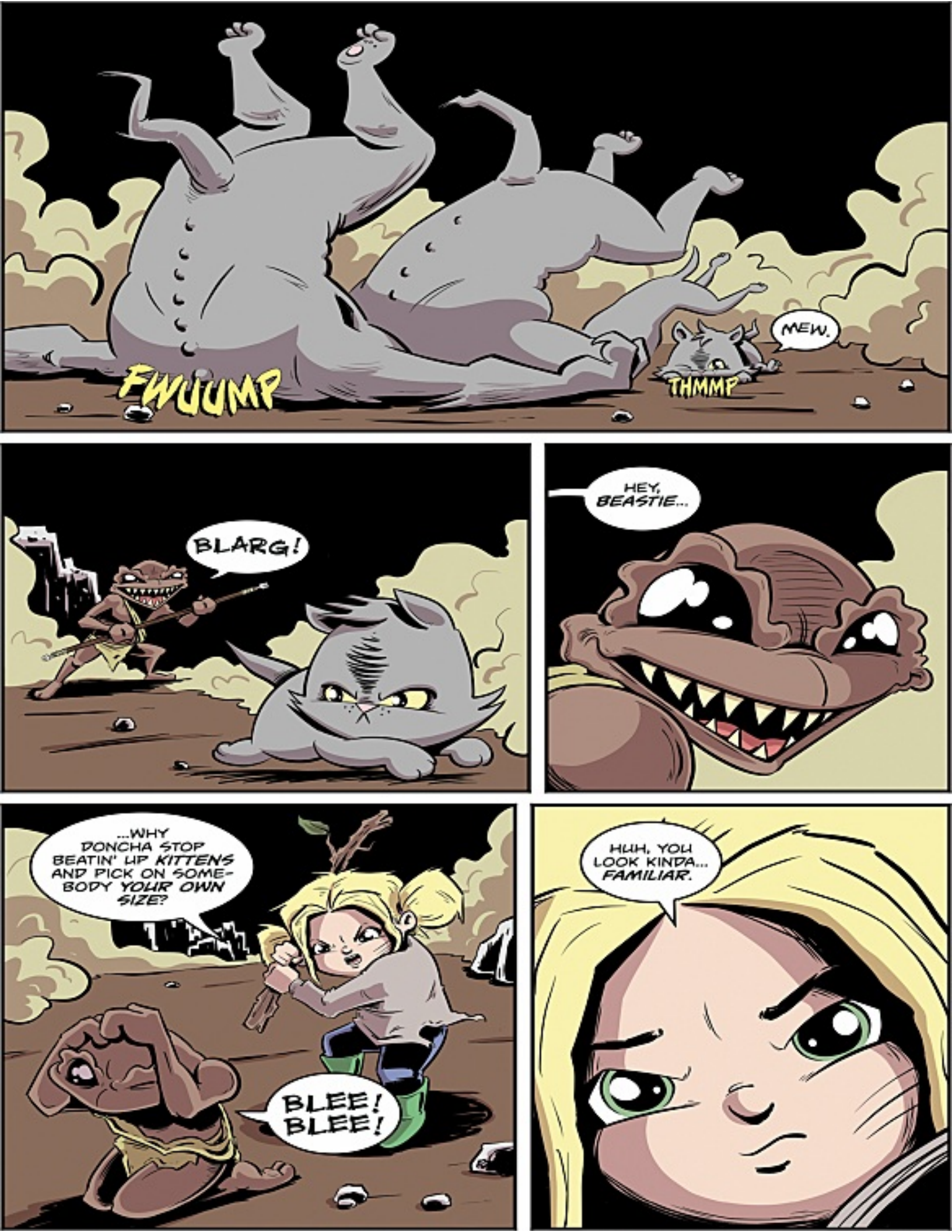

SURE IS DARK IN HERE. JUST HOW BEASTIES LIKE IT.
KITTEN? IS THAT YOU?
MEW.
HUHNG, IT'S GETTING TIGHTER IN HERE.
KITTEN, DO YOU SEE ANY BEASTIES OVER THERE?
MEW!
DON'T BE ASCARED, KITTEN. I'M HERE FOR YA. JUST COME A LI'L CLOSER.

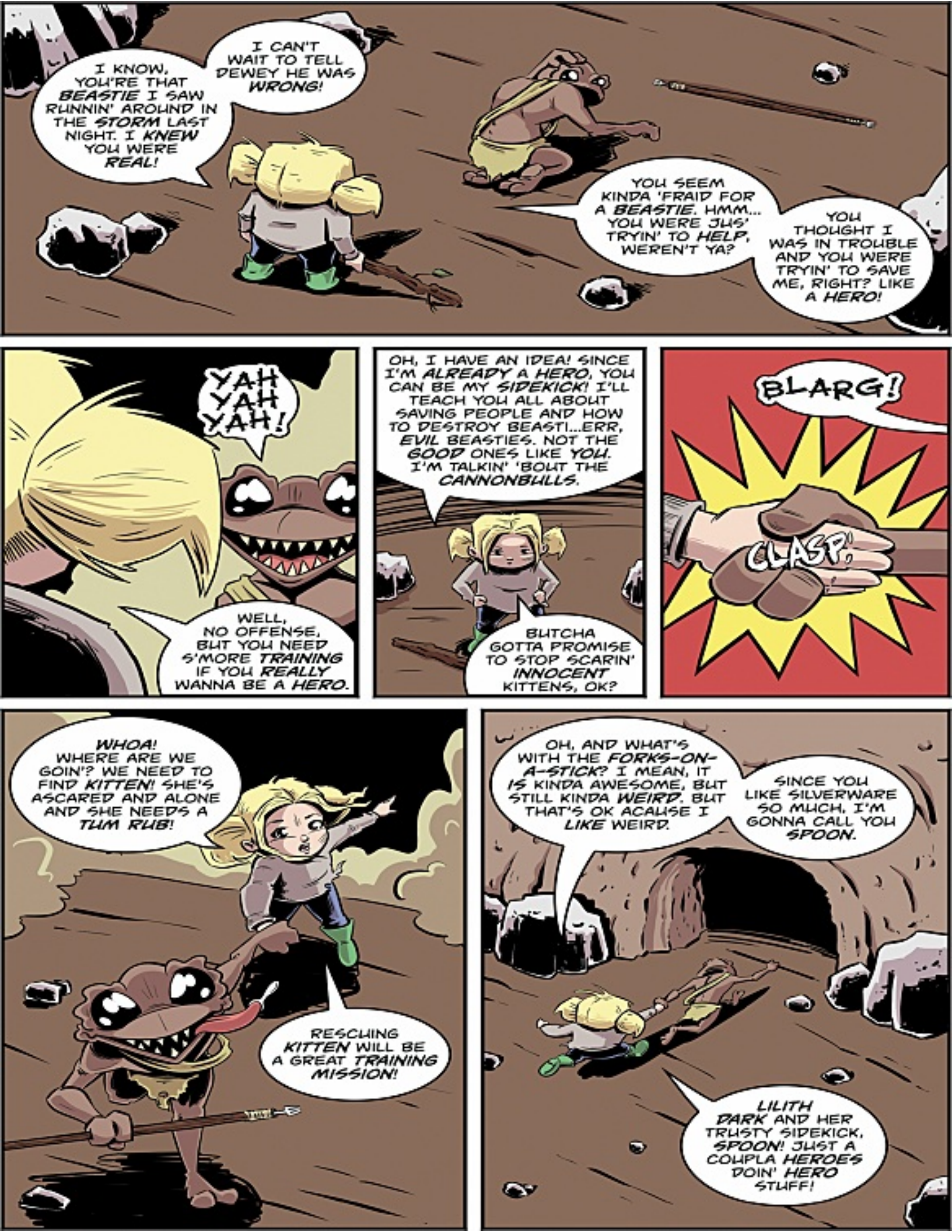
KITTEN, GRAB MY HAND!
MEVV.
UH, KITTEN? ARE YOU FEELING OK?
REEBOW!
SCRATCH
AHH!
OUCH! KITTEN, IT'S OK, I'M NOT MAD! COME BACK!
BRRRUUMMBB
UH, OH...
BRRRUUM
BRMBBLLLEE


AAHHH!
OOF!
THFOOP
KITTEN, ARE YOU ALRIGHT? DON'T BE SCARED. I'M HERE TO... K-KITTEN?
GRRRR
MMEEWW EEWW RROOWWLL!

OH, UMM, WOW.
YA DON'T LOOK SO MUCH LIKE A KITTEN ANYMORE, DO YA?
YA LOOK A BIT MORE... SAVAGE.
THAT'S IT! I'LL NAME YOU SAVAGE CAT-MANDOO!
MEOOOWWRR!
BLARG!
HEY!
BLAG!

SWAT
OOF!
UHNGH!
WU... ...UMMP
GROWL!
TRIP
BLA-GOG!


FWUUMP
THMMP
MEW.
BLARG!
HEY, BEASTIE...
...WHY DONCHA STOP BEATIN' UP KITTENS AND PICK ON SOMEBODY YOUR OWN SIZE?
BLEE! BLEE!
HUH, YOU LOOK KINDA... FAMILIAR.


I KNOW, YOU'RE THAT BEASTIE I SAW RUNNIN' AROUND IN THE STORM LAST NIGHT. I KNEW YOU WERE REAL!
I CAN'T WAIT TO TELL DEWEY HE WAS WRONG!
YOU SEEM KINDA 'FRAID FOR A BEASTIE. HMM... YOU WERE JUS' TRYIN' TO HELP, WEREN'T YA?
YOU THOUGHT I WAS IN TROUBLE AND YOU WERE TRYIN' TO SAVE ME, RIGHT? LIKE A HERO!
YAH YAH YAH!
WELL, NO OFFENSE, BUT YOU NEED S'MORE TRAINING IF YOU REALLY WANNA BE A HERO.
OH, I HAVE AN IDEA! SINCE I'M ALREADY A HERO, YOU CAN BE MY SIDEKICK! I'LL TEACH YOU ALL ABOUT SAVING PEOPLE AND HOW TO DESTROY BEASTI...ERR, EVIL BEASTIES. NOT THE GOOD ONES LIKE YOU. I'M TALKIN' 'BOUT THE CANNONBULLS.
BUTCHA GOTTA PROMISE TO STOP SCARIN' INNOCENT KITTENS, OK?
BLARG!
CLASP!
WHOA! WHERE ARE WE GOIN'? WE NEED TO FIND KITTEN! SHE'S ASCARED AND ALONE AND SHE NEEDS A TUM RUB!
RESCUING KITTEN WILL BE A GREAT TRAINING MISSION!
OH, AND WHAT'S WITH THE FORKS-ON-A-STICK? I MEAN, IT IS KINDA AWESOME, BUT STILL KINDA WEIRD. BUT THAT'S OK ACAUSE I LIKE WEIRD.
SINCE YOU LIKE SILVERWARE SO MUCH, I'M GONNA CALL YOU SPOON.
LILITH DARK AND HER TRUSTY SIDEKICK, SPOON! JUST A COUPLA HEROES DOIN' HERO STUFF!

I DON'T KNOW WHERE YOU'RE TAKING US, BUT IT BETTER BE TO WHEREVER KITTEN RAN OFF TO. AND I'M REALLY GETING SICK OF BEING STUCK IN CAVES TODAY. YOU KNOW WHAT I DON'T LIKE ABOUT CAVES? YOU NEVER KNOW WHAT'S ON THE OTHER SIDE.
COULD BE TREASURE, OR A DRAGON, OR IT COULD EVEN BE A DEN OF...
...A D-DEN OF...
...BEASTIES?!
BLUG!
RAWG!
GAK!
GLUG!
BLORG!
TO BE CONTINUED...